

# Hon Tracey Martin

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Minister for Children

Associate Minister of Education

Minister of Internal Affairs

Minister for Seniors



19 May 2020

Tēnā koe,

We wish to thank you once more for your valuable contribution to the National Archival and Library Institutions (NALI) process. Since our last communication with you, we have reflected on many of the points made and are pleased to inform you of the following announcements as part of Budget 2020:

- To address funding pressures and infrastructure issues for Archives New Zealand and the National Library, Budget 20 makes allowance for baselines to be increased for the second successive year with another increase of \$23m to 2023/24, and \$6m per annum continuing in outyears.
- Further investment has been made in Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, National Library and Archives New Zealand for the digitisation of high-risk audio-visual collections that are such an important record of New Zealand's society and history in the second half of the last century. Budget 20 makes allowance for \$10.0m through to 2023/24, with \$3.0m per annum continuing in outyears for the three institutions. Further capital funding of \$32.9m over four years will support building the required capability, including procuring a vendor to digitise at-risk magnetic collections. This will be managed in partnership between the institutions.
- A once in a generation commitment to Preserving the Nation's Memory has been made by creating a national documentary heritage campus in the Thorndon area, with Parliament and many government departments nearby. The Preserving the Nation's Memory programme of work recognises the importance of our documentary heritage collections and will allow us to better safeguard and preserve our memories and evidence, so we can pass on our culture, traditions and heritage to future generations.

- Budget 20 builds on funding allocated in Budget 19 for the design, planning and the resource consent process of the new Archives building. The new Archives facility will be built at 2 Aitken Street, Thorndon and will be connected to the National Library by means of an air bridge, with construction scheduled to commence in 2021. Budget 20 also includes the development of design for alterations required to the National Library to operationalise the air-bridge joining the two buildings, which will enable closer collaboration across New Zealand's three heritage organisations; Archives, National Library and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision, who are currently co-located with National Library.
- A recommendation on a preferred site for the Regional Shared Repository will be made in the next three months, and funding will be available for the purchase of land and design of the new regional repository.
- As a significant infrastructure project, the Archives Wellington building will be able to assist New Zealand's economic recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Building projects such as the new Archives Wellington facility and progressing the development of a documentary heritage campus will be crucial in supporting the construction industry and providing employment opportunities for the next six or seven years. Budget 20 has supported over \$300 million to progress purpose-built facilities. The Archives Wellington facility alone will create upwards of 340 jobs and this number will expand as the programme develops further.

Alongside these announcements, Te Tari Taiwhenua Department of Internal Affairs has committed to improving the impact of the National Library of New Zealand and Archives New Zealand together with Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision.

While the consensus is that current settings cannot continue, we have agreed that, with this level of investment and commitment, no structural changes will be made in the current term of this Government to allow the department time to implement several new measures. These measures aim to give the National Library and Archives NZ more operational flexibility and transparency, so they're best able to deliver on their 2030 and 2057 Strategies, and include:

- A new National Library and Archives NZ appropriation be implemented from 1 July 2020, providing greater external transparency of the funding available to the institutions.
- The Chief Archivist and National Librarian having direct and regular access to the Minister, and Chief Executive of the Department.
- The Chief Archivist and National Librarian receiving increased internal delegations for finances, HR and contract delegations meaning they can assume greater authority.

- Greater delegated decision making for routine capital spending.
- To explore opportunities to enhance external reporting for National Library and Archives NZ while remaining a core part of the Department's Statutory Annual Reporting process.
- Aligning the current strategic directions with the Preserving the Nations Programme to maximise the benefits from this investment
- Developing a sector focussed digital futures approach to align important digital content and access.

For further information, please see the NALI content in the Department's website here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/National-Archival-and-Library-Institutions-Ministerial-Group>

Once again, thank you for your valuable input and advice. It is a vital component of this once in a generation commitment and investment made in Budget 2020.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Hon Tracey Martin  
**Minister of Internal Affairs**



Hon Grant Robertson  
**Associate Minister for Arts,  
Culture and Heritage**